

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~ 25X1A

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT NO.	
TOPIC	Military Shipments Passing through the Kostenetz Railroad Station		
	25X1X		
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	Germany/Berlin
DATE OF CONTENT	1 to 16 July 1950		
	25X1A		25X1A
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	
REFERENCES			
PAGES	1	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS			

25X1X

SOURCE

1. A train with an undetermined number of flatcars carrying field artillery pieces with rubber-tired wheels, and escorted by about 20 soldiers, passed through Kostenetz (B 12/E 72) on 1 July 1950. The train came from the direction of Plovdiv (B 12/A 50) and went toward Sofia (B 1/L 36). The inscription "821 seminaria" was chalked on each railroad car. Another shipment of artillery pieces passed through Kostenetz going in the same direction on 2 July 1950.
2. According to a local resident, two trains totaling 45 railroad cars and carrying guns or AT guns passed through Kostenetz headed toward Sofia during the night of 2 July 1950. Railroadmen of the Kostenetz railroad station said that the shipments came from Burgas (B 15/C 73) harbor where Soviet war materiel was allegedly unloaded recently.
3. About 30 tank cars coupled to ordinary freight trains were observed between 3 and 8 July 1950. The cars had the Bulgarian inscription Gasoline or Oil and headed toward Sofia. According to local residents similar cars passed on other days, always coupled to ordinary freight trains. It was not known whether the tank cars were filled.
4. Groups of 30 to 40 Bulgarian soldiers, fully equipped, travelled toward Sofia on the regular passenger train during the first half of July 1950. This had not been previously observed with the normal passenger traffic. Some of the soldiers travelling toward Sofia on 6 July 1950 said that they came from the Bulgarian-Turkish border and belonged to the border guards (granichari).
5. A train carrying heavy artillery pieces passed the Kostenetz railroad station going toward Sofia at 6 a.m. on 15 July 1950.
6. A train with an undetermined number of flatcars, carrying 15 tanks bearing three-digit numbers, went toward Sofia at 9:30 p.m. on 15 July 1950. The tanks were probably T-34s. Each tank was escorted by four or five soldiers. Two more tank shipments allegedly passed the Kostenetz railroad station toward Sofia during the night of 15 July 1950, according to railroadmen.

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